INSTRVCTIONS FOR MVSTERS AND ARMES, AND the vſe thereof:

By order from the Lords of His Maieſties moſt Honourable Priuy Counſaile.

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¶ *Inſtructions for* MVSTERS *and* ARMES, *and the vſe thereof.*

Because the meaſure of theſe diſtances cannot be taken ſo iuſtly by the eye, we take the diſtance of ſixe foote betweene *File* and *File*, by commanding the Souldiers, as they ſtand, to ſtretch foorth their armes, and ſtand ſo remooued one from another, that their hands may meet.

And for the *Rankes*, wee make account wee take the ſame diſtance of ſixe foote, when the butte ende of the Pikes doe almoſt reach their heeles that march before. Wee take the ſecond order or diſtance of three foot betweene *File* and *File*, by bidding the Souldiers ſet their armes a Kenbowe, and put themſelues ſo cloſe, that their elbowes may meet. And wee reckon wee take the ſame diſtance betweene the *Rankes*, when they come vp almoſt to the Swords point.

FIrſt of all, it is to be vnderſtood that there are three ſorts of diſtances, to wit, *Open Order*, *Order*, and *Cloſe Order*. *Open Order*, or the firſt diſtance is, when the Souldiers both in *Ranke* and *File*, ſtand ſixe foot remooued one from another.

The ſecond diſtance, or your *Order* is, when the Souldiers ſtand three foot remoued both in *Ranke* and *File*, one from another; and this *Order* is to be vſed when they are embattailed, or march in the face of an enemie, or when they come to ſtand, or when you will wheele. But when you march thorow any Countrey, you muſt obſerue three foot only from *File* to *File*, and ſixe from *Ranke* to *Ranke*. The third diſtance, or your *Cloſe Order* is commanded by this word *Cloſe*, which is, when there is one foot and a halfe from *File* to *File*, & three from *Rank* to *Ranke*, and this is for the Pikes only, and muſt neuer be vſed, but when you will ſtand firme to receiue the charge of an enemie. The Musketiers muſt neuer bee cloſer then the ſecond diſtance of three foot in ſquare, becauſe they are to haue a free vſe of their Armes.

In exerciſing your motions, you are alwaies to obſerue your *Open Order* of ſix foot in ſquare, in which the company being firſt placed, you are to acquaint them to theſe termes of directions.

Stand right in your *Files*.
Stand right in your *Rankes*.
Silence.
To the right hand.
As you were.
To the left hand.
As you were.
To the right hand about.
As you were.
To the left hand about.
As you were.
Rankes to the right hand double.
As you were.
Rankes to the left hand double.
As you were.
Files to the right hand double.
As you were.
Files to the left hand double.
As you Were.
Middlemen to the right hand double your front.
As you were.
Middlemen to the left hand double your front.
As you were.
Rankes { to the right / or / left hand } countermarch.
To the right or left hand } at discretion.

It is to be noted when you are commanded to be as you were, you are euer to returne by the contrary hand, from whence you came. As for example, If you did turne to the right hand, you are to returne as you were to the left hand, and so in the rest.

When you will countermarch to the right hand, the first Ranke of Leaders only must aduance one step forward with the right leg, and then turne, and all the other Rankes must march first vp to the place from whence the first Ranke did countermarch before they turne. So likewise if you wil countermarch to the left hand, the first Ranke must step forwards one step with the left legge, and then turne, and all the other Rankes behinde must come vp to that place before they turn, as before. The same order is to be obserued when you wil countermarch your Files.

In countermarching, though both are here set downe for distinction sake, you are to name neither Rankes nor Files: But are only to say, to the right hand countermarch, or to the left hand countermarch.

Files

Files { to the right / or / left hand } countermarch.

When you exercise a company single, you double your Ranks before you wheele, in regard the body is small. But in a diuision or greater body, you close first both your files & your Rankes to your Order of 3. foot, and omit the doubling, and so wheele.

To the right / or / left hand } As you were.

Before you wheele.

Rankes { to the right / or / left hand } double.

Files { to the right or left hand, or to the middle, } close to your *Order* { to 3. foote betweene *File* & *File*.

When you will wheele to the right hand, double your Ranks to the left hand, and when you wheele to the left hand, double your Ranks to the right hand. For so the right and left hand Leaders will keepe their places on that corner towards which you wheele.

This maner of opening is vsed onely in a single company. For in greater bodies where the doubling is omitted, you open first your Rankes, & then your Files to your open Order of sixe foot, to bring them backe againe as they were.

Rankes { close to your *Order* } { to three foote betweene *Ranke* and *Ranke*.

To the right hand wheele / To the left hand wheele / Or wheele about } { which you list and each as often as you list.

After you haue wheeled.

Rankes backward open in double distance.

Files open to your *Order*, that is, to 3 foote.

Rankes as you were.

By double distance is meant 12. foot. For so the Rankes (which before did double) falling out againe into their first places, come iust to the distance of their open Order of sixe foote, in which they were before they doubled.

In

Instructions for Musters and Armes.

In opening *Rankes* or *Files*, you must make all the *Files* or *Rankes*, sauing the outermost on that hand from whence you meane to open (which must stand) to moue altogether til the second *Ranke* or *File*, from that which standeth, haue gotten its distance, and subsequently the rest.

If you will haue them close their *Files* to the right or left hand; the outermost *File* on that hand you purpose to close, must be commanded to stand, and all the rest to close to it.

Aduance your Pikes.
Order your Pikes.
Shoulder your Pikes.
Charge your Pikes.
Order your Pikes.
Traile your Pikes.
Checke your Pikes.

In charging, halfe the Rankes onely must charge their Pikes, the other hindermost halfe of the Rankes doe Port their Pikes, that is, they carry them so couched ouer the heads of the foremost, as may giue them no offence, either in charging or retyring. Besides, this way the Pikes are not so subiect to be broken by the Shot of the Enemie, as when they are aduanced.

These following motions are to be performed both standing and marching.

Charge your Pikes.
Shoulder your Pikes.
To the right hand charge.
Shoulder your Pikes.
To the left hand charge.
Shoulder your Pikes.
To the Reare charge.
Shoulder your Pikes.
Stand.
Order your Pikes.

They must likewise obserue when they charge standing, to fall backe with the right legge, and marching to step forwards with the left.

¶ For the Musket.

These are the Postures which in this Booke are to be obserued: But in Exercising, you must onely vse these three termes of direction.

Make ready.
Present.
Giue fire.

Your Musketiers must obserue in all their motions, to turne to the right hand, and that they cary the mouth of their Peeces high, as well when they are shouldered, as in priming, and also when they hold their Pannes guarded, and come vp to giue fire.

In aduancing towards an Enemie, when they doe not skirmish loose & disbanded, they must giue fire by Rankes after this maner. Two Rankes must alwayes make ready together, and aduance tenne paces forwards before the bodies, at which distance a Sergeant (or when the body is great, some other Officer) must stand, to whom the Musketiers are to come vp before they present and giue fire. First, the first Ranke, and whileſt the first giues fire, the second Ranke keepe their Muskets close to their Rests, and their pannes guarded; and assoone as the first are fallen away, the second presently present and giue fire, and fall after them. Now assoone as the two first Rankes doe mooue from their places in the front, the two Rankes next it, must vnshoulder their Muskets, and make ready, so as they may aduance forwards ten paces, as before, assoone as euer the two first Rankes are fallen away, and are to doe in all points

as the former. So all the other Rankes through the whole diuision must doe the same by twoes one after another.

A manner there is to giue fire retyring *from an Enemie, which is performed after this sort.*

As the Troope marcheth, the hindermost Ranke of all keeping still with the Troope maketh ready, and being ready, the Souldiers in that Ranke turn altogether to the right hand, and giue fire, marching presently away a good round pace to the Front, and there place themselues in Ranke together iust before the Front. Assoone as the first Ranke turnes to giue fire, the Ranke next it makes ready and doth as the former, and so the rest.

We giue fire by the Flanke thus; The outermost file next the Enemy must be commanded to make ready, keeping still along with the body, till such time as they be ready, and then they turne to the right or left hand, according to the sight of their Enemy, either vpon their right or left flanke, and giue fire altogether: when they haue discharged they stir not, but keepe their ground, and charge their Peeces againe in the same place they stand. Now assoone as the aforesaid file doeth turne to giue fire, the outermost next it makes ready, alwayes keeping along with the Troope, till the bringer vp bee past a little beyond the leader of that file that gaue fire last, and then the whole file must turne & giue fire, and doe in all points as the first did; and so all the rest one after the other. A Sergeant, or (if the Troope be great) some other better qualified Officer must stand at the head of the

the first File, and assoone as the second File hath giuen fire, and hath charged, hee is to leade forward the first File vp to the second File, and so to the rest one after another, till hee hath gathered vp againe the whole Wing, and then hee is to ioyne them againe in equall front with the Pikes.

Last of all the Troope or whole Wing of Muskettiers makes ready all together, and the first Ranke without aduancing giues fire in the place it stands in, and speedily as it may, yet orderly, falles away, all the Rankes doing the same successiuely, one after another.

The Armes of a Pikeman, are, Gorget, Curats, Head-peece, Sword, Girdle and Hangers.

The Armes of a Muskettier, are, a Musket, a Rest, Bandeliers, Head-peece, Sword, Girdle and Hangers.

It is required, that the Muskets be all of a Bore, the Pikes of a length: But to the end this course may not by a sudden alteration turne to a generall charge and burthen vpon the people, the Lords Lieutenants, and the Deputy Lieutenants are rather to vse the way of aduice and encouragement, as a matter which will be very acceptable to his Maiestie, who will take notice of the affection of such as shall most readily prouide Armes according to this order, then to enforce a present generall obseruation thereof. But in case where the Armes shall be decayed, and must bee renewed, this order is to be strictly obserued.

The Armes of Horsemen, Cuirassiers, are, a Gorget, Curats, Cutases, Pouldrons, Vambraces, a left Hand-Gauntlet, Taces, Cuisses, a Caske, a Sword, Girdle and Hangers, a case of Pistols, Firelockes, Saddle, Bridle, Bitte, Petrell, Crooper, with the leathers, belonging to fasten his Pistols, and his

necessary sacke of carriage, and a good horse to mount on.

The Armes of a Hargobuzier or Dragon, which hath succeeded in the place of Light-horsemen (and are indeed of singular vse almost in all actions of Warre) the Armes are a good Hargobus, or Dragon, fitted with a iron worke, to be caried in a Belt, a Belt with a Flaske, Priming-box, Key, and Bullet-bag, an open Head-peece with cheekes, a good Buffe-coate with deepe skirts, Sword, Girdle, and Hangers, a Saddle, Bridle, Bitt, Petrell, Crooper, with Strappes for his Sacke of necessaries, and a horse of lesse force and lesse price then the Cuirassier.

In the exercise of the foot troupes, the companies are to be of hundreds onely, besides Officers, that they may be so much the neerer together to be trained and exercised with lesse paines to the Souldiers, and lesse losse of time, when they shall be called together by their Captaine.

The Company is to be diuided into Files of ten in a File, the File is to bee distinguished into a Leader, a bringer vp, two Middlemen, and three betweene the Leader and his Middleman, and three betweene the Bringer vp & his Middleman. When the Companies come together, they are to be exercised ten in depth (as the proportion best fitted to receiue all charges and performe all executions;) But in cases of necessitie in seruice, and for exercise, it will be requisite to reduce them into fiue in File, and then those two Middlemen become Bringers vp, and then haue a kinde of charge ouer those three betweene the Leader and the Bringer vp, and will be of great vse in preparing and exercising of the Souldiers in the practise of their Armes and order. For it is not intended that the whole Companies should be drawne together

o *Leader.*
o *Middleman.*
o *Middleman.*
o *Bringer vp.*

together to be exercised: But that vpon Sundayes after Euening prayer, and vpon Holidayes (as it hath been formerly vsed for Bow) the Leader, Bringer vp, or Middlemen should exercise together with his whole File, or such a part as dwels most conuenient for him. And further, that once in a moneth, or six weeks, the Captaine, Lieutenant or Ancient may with the knowledge of the Deputy Lieutenant that dwels next him) vpon a Holiday exercise a Squadron of his Company, or the whole, as shall seeme good to the Deputy Lieutenant.

The like forme for the Horse: But it is to bee obserued, that the Files of Horse are neuer to be aboue six, but distinguished by the names of Leader, Bringer vp, and two Middlemen, and to bee doubled to three deepe, vpon occasion. And to auoyd the great abuse, that is practised by those that are inrolled to keep Horses for the Kinge seruice, That the Leader, Bringer vp, or Middlemen of the Files of Horse, doe exercise the Horse vpon Holidayes and Sundayes after Euening prayer: And that the Captaine by himselfe, his Lieutenant, or Cornett, may (with knowledge of the next Deputy Lieutenant) vpon a Holiday, call together some Files, or a squadron of his Company, to practise them in the exercise of their Armes. The Officers also both of Horse and Foot Bands, aswell in the chiefe, as inferiours, Serieants, Corporals, and Lamprizadoes, are to haue a more speciall care for the ordinary exercising of the Souldiers of their Company, which dwell next vnto them, and properly for them.

o *Leader.*
o *Middleman.*
o *Middleman.*
o *Bringer vp.*

A speciall care and order must be taken that all those that finde a man to serue on Horseback, whether they find the

Horſe or the Man, or both, muſt not change the Horſe or Man at their pleaſure: for ſo it would bee euery day to practiſe a new man or a new horſe, and the exerciſe bee made vaine. But they muſt take into conſideration, that the man and horſe deſigned to the ſeruice of the King, hath (by the intention of the Law) beene dedicated ſo to the intereſt of the King, as they muſt alwayes be in readineſſe at the call of the Kings Officers, and may not bee changed without the knowledge and conſent of the Captaine, or Deputie Lieutenant next adioyning, or by warrant of the Lord Lieutenant. And this with this onely limitation, that another ſufficient Man or Horſe be ſupplied in the room of the Man or Horſe made deficient, for a iuſt cauſe well approoued of. And as the Souldier, or Horſe may not be changed or diſcharged, without the knowledge of the Captaine or Superiour Officers. So it is not lawfull for the Captaine to change or diſcharge any Man or Horſe (once inrolled) without the approbation of the Lord Lieutenant, or his Deputie.

A principall care is to bee taken for the prouiſion of the Armes, that they may be prouided at ſuch rates as they are truely worth, that the people bee not ſubiect to the abuſe of vndertakers for theſe buſineſſes: And alſo for the furniſhing of euery Shire with a competent proportion of Match, Powder and Bullets, to which purpoſe directions haue beene heretofore already giuen. Neuertheleſſe, it is not held neceſſary, vntill the Souldiers bee perfect in their Poſtures, and ready managing of the Pike when they are armed, and the Musket together with the Reſt, that there ſhould bee any expence of Powder at all: And then for ſome time to be exerciſed with ſome falſe fires, which is onely a little Pow-

der in the pan: Nor at any time to blow away their powder in vaine; but that powder which ſhould be allowed by the Country for trayning, be beſtowed only at Marks: In which caſe, it is to be wiſht, that little ſmall prizes might bee prouided at the coſt of the Country, to bee ſhot for at the markes, which would giue an ambition to men to cary them away, and would ſaue the Country more in powder then their value: And a deſire in men to render themſelues perfect, would make them to finde themſelues powder with that money, which on thoſe daies, and in thoſe times, would bee worſe ſpent in an Alehouſe.

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